

I claim:

1. A CPU chip comprising:
a first register containing a first value that indicates the maximum temperature at
5 which the CPU chip is rated to operate.
2. The CPU chip of claim 1, further comprising:
a second register containing a second value that indicates the maximum power the
10 CPU chip is rated to draw during operation.
3. The CPU chip of claim 1, wherein:
the first register also contains a second value that indicates the maximum power the
CPU chip is rated to consume during operation.
- 15 4. The CPU chip of claim 1, wherein:
the first value is placed in the first register during manufacture or test of the CPU
chip.
- 20 5. The CPU chip of claim 1, wherein:
the first register is a read-only register.
6. The CPU chip of claim 2, wherein:
the second value is placed in the second register during manufacture or test of the
25 CPU chip.

7. The CPU chip of claim 3, wherein:
the second value is placed in the first register during manufacture or test of the CPU
chip.

5 8. The CPU chip of claim 2, wherein:
the second register is a read-only register.

9. The CPU chip of claim 1, wherein:
the first value is specific to the CPU chip.

10 10. The CPU chip of claim 1, wherein:
the first value is generic to a manufacturing lot that included the CPU chip.

11. The CPU chip of claim 1, wherein:
15 the first value is generic to a group of CPU chips having a similar model or version
identification.

12. The CPU chip of claim 1, wherein:
the first register is a nonvolatile read/write register.

20 13. The CPU chip of claim 2, wherein:
the second register is a nonvolatile read/write register.

14. A CPU chip comprising:

a first register containing a first value that indicates the maximum power the CPU chip is rated to consume during operation.

15. The CPU chip of claim 14, further comprising:

a second register containing a second value that indicates the maximum temperature at which the CPU chip is rated to operate.

16. The CPU chip of claim 14, wherein:

the first register also contains a second value that indicates the maximum temperature at which the CPU chip is rated to operate.

17. The CPU chip of claim 14, wherein:

the first value is placed in the first register during manufacture or test of the CPU chip.

18. The CPU chip of claim 14, wherein:

the first register is a read-only register.

19. The CPU chip of claim 15, wherein:

the second value is placed in the second register during manufacture or test of the CPU chip.

20. The CPU chip of claim 16, wherein:

the second value is placed in the first register during manufacture or test of the CPU chip.

21. The CPU chip of claim 15, wherein:
the second register is a read-only register.

22. The CPU chip of claim 14, wherein:
the first value is specific to the CPU chip.

23. The CPU chip of claim 14, wherein:
the first value is generic to a manufacturing lot that included the CPU chip.

24. The CPU chip of claim 14, wherein:
the first value is generic to a group of CPU chips having a similar model or version
identification.

25. The CPU chip of claim 14, wherein:
the first register is a nonvolatile read/write register.

26. The CPU chip of claim 15, wherein:
the second register is a nonvolatile read/write register.